



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
**INDEPENDENCE WOMAN, KC MAN SENTENCED
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., woman and a Kansas City, Mo., man were sentenced in federal court today, in separate and unrelated cases, for illegally possessing a firearm. Today's sentencings, Graves said, mark additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

* **Ramona L. Ravenscroft**, 35, of Independence, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to one year and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 27, 2004, **Ravenscroft** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, she admitted that she was in possession of an H&R .32-caliber revolver on May 9, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Ravenscroft** has a 1992 Jackson County, Mo., criminal felony conviction for the distribution, delivery and manufacture of a controlled substance.

Ravenscroft was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Aug. 21, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Michael D. Woolridge**, 21, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to three years and six months in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 13, 2004, **Woolridge** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of

ammunition. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he was in possession of 30 rounds of PMC .38-caliber ammunition on Dec. 2, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Woolridge** has two 2002 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance and sale of a controlled substance.

Woolridge was originally charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition in a criminal complaint filed in federal court on Dec. 3, 2003, in Kansas City. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 17, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow